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MUSTANG DAILY

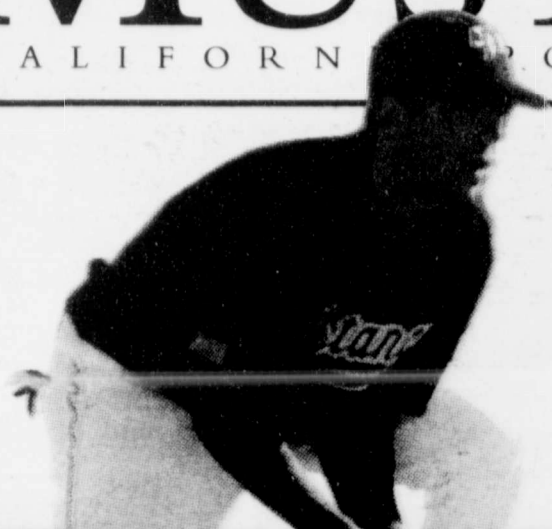
2005

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 62°

Low 32°



Late inning heroics help Mustang baseball sweep University of San Diego over weekend

IN SPORTS, 8

Indie-rock sisters, Tegan and Sara, brew up that coffee house feeling

IN ARTS & CULTURE, 5



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Mustangdaily@calpoly.edu

MIDDLE EAST

Ambassador warns of problems for Iraq election

Large turnouts are expected among Shiite Muslims and Kurds, but it is unclear whether Sunni Arabs will participate

Robert H. Reid
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The U.S. ambassador to Iraq acknowledged serious problems ahead of next week's election but gave assurance Sunday that "great efforts" were being made to ensure every Iraqi can vote. In an audiotape posted on the Web, a speaker claiming to be Iraq's most feared terrorist declared "fierce war" on democracy, raising the stakes in the vote.

Rebels who have vowed to disrupt the balloting blew up a designated polling station near Hillah south of Baghdad and stormed a police station in Ramadi west of the capital, authorities said. A U.S. soldier was killed Saturday on a security patrol in Mosul, the U.S. command said Sunday.

U.S. and Iraqi officials fear more such attacks in the run-up to Sunday's election and have announced massive security measures to protect voters. Iraqis will choose a 275-seat National Assembly and provincial councils in Iraq's 18 provinces in the first nationwide balloting since the ouster of Saddam Hussein in 2003.

Large turnouts are expected among Iraq's majority Shiite Muslims in the south and minority Kurds in the northeast. But the big question is whether Sunni Arabs, who form the core of the insurgency, will defy rebel threats and their clergy's calls for a boycott and participate in substantial numbers.

Failure of significant numbers of Sunnis to participate would call into question the legitimacy of the new Iraqi leadership, widening the gulf among the country's ethnic and religious groups and setting the stage for even more turmoil.

In a series of interviews Sunday on American television talk shows, U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte acknowledged an increase in rebel intimidation of Iraqi officials and security forces and noted serious security problems remain in the Sunni Triangle north and west of Baghdad.

"But security measures are being taken, by both the multinational forces here in Iraq as well as the Iraqi armed forces and police," Negroponte told

see Elections, page 2

Cardboard vessels risk a watery grave



SHEILA SOBCHIK MUSTANG DAILY

Architecture students raced in Sinsheimer Pool during the Cardboard Boat Regatta, on Saturday.

Crystal Phend
MUSTANG DAILY

Derrick Homer had a dream. He had a dream of the design that would make a cardboard square into a floatable boat. And, float it did — at least for a while.

On its second time across Sinsheimer Pool, the inevitable effect of water on cardboard melted the craft as it took on water.

Homer did not win Saturday's Cardboard Boat Regatta, but like all the architecture sophomores in the race for the coveted Cardboard Cup, he learned the dangers of poor design.

"You are standing behind your design," architecture sophomore Jon Mayfield said. "If it doesn't work you get wet."

Students in the three sections of an architecture design class were allowed two 4 by 6 foot sheets of cardboard, a roll of brown paper tape and a can of polyurethane for waterproofing. Other universities host similar races but let the students use as much cardboard as they want or even other materials like fiberglass.

"It's all about economy of means," said architecture professor Howard Weisenthal, whose class participated in the tournament.

The 54 students in the week long project designed and tested models before building their vessels.

Architecture sophomore Andrew Humaydan spent close to 100 hours

on his Catamaran-like boat including a couple of nights spent on the floor under the lab table.

"If I put as much time into robbing a bank as I put into this boat, I'd be rich," he said.

All the hard work was put to the test as the

craft entered the water and students began the delicate process of positioning themselves inside with the help of friends.

Several boats promptly swamped or rolled the rowers into the water. Many students were prepared for a dousing in bikinis, board shorts and flip-flops.

Greg Magley's bold vertical tube

design flipped as soon as he was lowered inside it.

"I wasn't heavy enough," he said. "I thought I'd go farther in."

Architecture professors, regatta veterans and upperclassmen discussed the various poor design choices from the sidelines amidst cries of "I'm going under" and "the seat's breaking, for the love of God get in your boats."

Others banttered about misapplication of Archimedes buoyancy principle.

"A lot of them messed up and made the front too low so they sunk," architecture senior Lindsey Engles said.

Of course, paddling speed was an important factor as well. As the qualifying heats progressed, snorkeling fins and ping pong paddles littered the pool alongside bits of cardboard floating.

By the final race, all but one of the non-typical boat designs had fallen prey to the water.

"Simple is the best," said Matt

see Cardboard, page 2

Troop memorial in University Union this week

Display has more than 1,000 photos of United States soldiers killed in the war in Iraq

Caitlin Donnell
MUSTANG DAILY

An art piece entitled "The Faces of War: A Peace Memorial" moved from the window display at Boo Boo Records and will be shown this week upstairs in the University Union.

The art piece displays more than 1,000 small photographs of most of the American soldiers who have died during the war in Iraq. Their pictures, downloaded from the Internet, are displayed on metallic covered pieces of foam core meant to represent an abstraction of dog tags and are hung on a large wire grid.

The piece was created by Young Objectors United to End War (YOUTEW), a local group of eight young people, ages 15 to 21, who spent more than 300 hours working on the project.

"It was created because we wanted to represent all of the soldiers who died from the United States and to just look at it from our point of view of what a tragic loss of life the war has been," Melinda Forbes, mentor of

YOUTEW said.

The piece was created this summer and has been on display at Boo Boo's since October. Forbes said the response from the community was very positive while it was in the storefront.

"People from the community would come in and there was so much gratitude for having the piece in the window," Forbes said. "One of the girls that worked the front desk said that every other person that came in said thank you for putting that piece in there."

The project was inspired by a piece in Santa Barbara created by the Veterans for Peace, called Arlington West, in which a cross was placed in the sand every Sunday since the war in Iraq began. Now, Forbes said, the sand is covered with crosses.

"Part of our effort was that we wanted to create a piece that was nonpartisan," Forbes said. "It is a political statement because we are in opposition to war but people on both sides of this issue have responded positively because it is an honoring and quiet piece, it shows the loss and sadness: in every face there is a mother, a



MATT WECHTER MUSTANG DAILY

The group that made the memorial is planning a trip to Washington D.C. They hope to speak to President Bush about how to prevent war.

father and communities that miss these young people, making it so personal."

The group is planning to go to Washington D.C. on Mother's Day and have written a proclamation in hopes to speak with President George W. Bush to let him know their ideas

about how war can be prevented. With them, they will be bringing a more portable version of the original art piece.

"This experience has been really great," Salisa Lara, a 17-year-old home-schooled high school student

see Memorial, page 2

Memorial

continued from page 1

and member of YOUTEW who helped to create the piece said. "It helps to be doing something and getting such a great response from people who are so supportive and grateful for

it."

Forbes was inspired to work with children after she saw her 17-year-old son almost enlist in the Marines after being approached by a recruiter in high school.

"(The U.S. Marines) were very persuasive with my son," Forbes said. "It was really scary so I thought I need to

start working with young people to stop war and to also keep our children out of harm's way."

After a town meeting at the San Luis Obispo library, Forbes offered to work with children through the arts because she is an artist.

"I think that part of the power of the piece is that everyone comes and

gets their own message," Forbes said. "That is why we chose to work through the arts because we're not trying to preach anything, we're just trying to show the loss and then people can decide for themselves how they feel about war and how they feel about the art."

The piece will only be on display in

the University Union for one week but the group said they hope to keep it on campus or somewhere in the community for longer.

"We'd like to find a permanent home for it," Forbes said. "It is nice to have a place to go to mourn the loss of all of these young people."

Elections

continued from page 1

"Fox News Sunday."

"There will be some problematic areas ... But even there, great efforts are being made to enable every Iraqi eligible to do so to be able to vote," he said.

Underscoring the threat, a speaker identifying himself as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leader of Iraq's al-Qaida affiliate, condemned the election, branding candidates as "demi-idols" and saying those who vote for them "are infidels," a clear threat to the safety of all those who participate in the balloting.

"We have declared a fierce war on

this evil principle of democracy and those who follow this wrong ideology," the speaker said in an audiotape posted Sunday on an Islamic Web site. "Anyone who tries to help set up this system is part of it."

The speaker warned Iraqis to be careful of "the enemy's plan to implement so-called democracy in your country." He said the Americans have engineered the election to install Shiite Muslims in power. Al-Zarqawi has in the past branded Shiites as heretics.

The United States has offered a \$25 million reward for al-Zarqawi's capture or death, the same amount as for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden.

Most of the insurgents are believed

to be Sunni Arabs, who lost influence and privilege with the fall of their patron Saddam. Their ranks have been reinforced by non-Iraqi Arab extremists who have come to Iraq to wage holy war against the Americans.

In order to encourage as big a turnout of Sunnis as possible, U.S. and Iraqi troops have stepped up security operations in Baghdad, Mosul and other tense areas, rounding up hundreds of suspected insurgents. The U.S. command announced Sunday it had arrested an undisclosed "top insurgent suspect" in Baghdad after hunting him for nearly a year.

Sunni elder statesman Adnan Pachachi, who is running for the National Assembly, told CNN's "Late

Edition" that prospects for a good Sunni turnout had improved somewhat in recent weeks but it was important that Sunnis be properly represented in the new government.

In order to shake public confidence in the elections, insurgents have accelerated attacks against Iraq's security services, trained by the Americans but plagued by leadership and morale problems.

A major insurgent group, the Ansar al-Sunnah Army, posted a videotape Sunday on a Web site showing the assassination of an Iraqi army colonel captured in Mosul. The tape showed a man in civilian clothes holding a military identification card. As the man sat in a chair, a masked gunman

approached from his right and shot him in the head with a rifle.

The United States hopes that an elected Iraqi government might command broader public support in the campaign against the insurgents, hastening the day when the 150,000 American troops could go home.

However, interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said it was too early to talk about a withdrawal of U.S.-led forces.

"The terrorists and the evil forces are trying to break our will. They are trying to stop democracy from happening in Iraq," Allawi said in an interview Sunday on British Broadcasting Corp. television's "Breakfast With Frost" program.

Cardboard

continued from page 1

Goodwin, who won the final heat and was lifted onto the shoulders of his friends.

The Cardboard Cup makes the winner popular, said architecture senior Gordon Wong, who won the last regatta in 2002.

"People say, 'Oh you're that guy

who won,'" he said.

For Weisenthal and the other two professors though, the exercise is most of all a way to reinforce consequences of design.

"They're going to be responsible for bigger things than cardboard boats in their life, but if it fails they get wet. They don't want to have that feeling ever again. They want to be successful."

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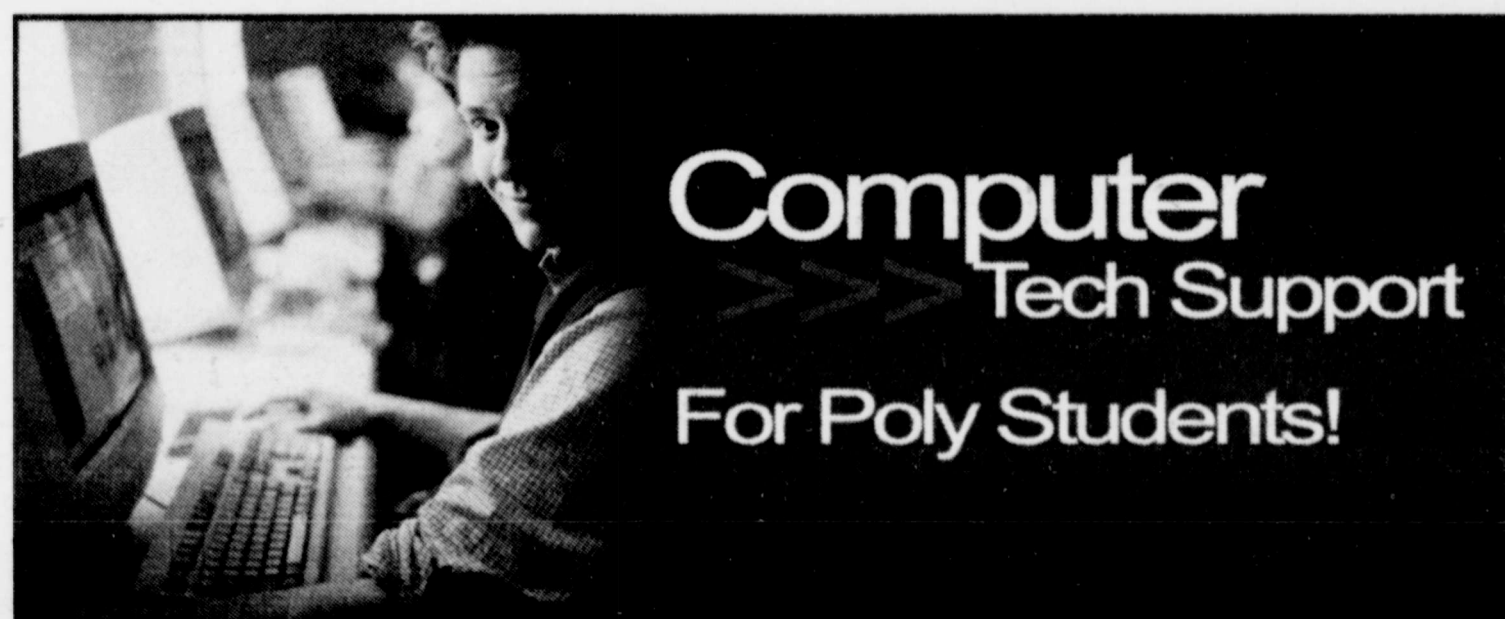


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STATE NEWS

LOS ANGELES — Johnny Carson, the "Tonight Show" TV host who served America a smooth nightcap of celebrity banter and heartland charm for 30 years, has died. He was 79. Carson's nephew, Jeff Sotzing, told The Associated Press Carson died early Sunday morning.

Sotzing would not give further details, including the time of death

or the location.

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco may become the first city in the nation to charge shoppers for grocery bags.

The city's Commission on the Environment is expected to ask the mayor and board of supervisors Tuesday to consider a 17-cent per bag charge on paper and plastic grocery bags. While the goal is reducing

plastic bag pollution, paper was added so as not to discriminate.

FRESNO — A federal jury has awarded nearly \$1 million in damages to a field worker who said her complaints about being raped and threatened by a supervisor were ignored by her employer.

Olivia Tamayo, a Mexican immigrant and mother of five who began working for Harris Farms in 1985,

said she was repeatedly raped by her supervisor, Rene Rodriguez, between 1993 and 1995. She never filed a police report.

She said she was forced to resign her \$23,000-a-year job in 2001, and now earns just \$10,000 a year at another job.

Tamayo was represented by attorneys from the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission.

—Associated Press

NATIONAL NEWS

WASHINGTON — Nearly three decades before the Sept. 11 attacks, a high-level government panel developed plans to protect the nation against terrorist acts ranging from radiological "dirty bombs" to airline missile attacks, according to declassified documents obtained by The Associated Press.

"Unless governments take basic precautions, we will continue to stand at the edge of an awful abyss," Robert Kupperman, chief scientist for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, wrote in a 1977 report that summarized nearly five years of work by the Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism.

BOSTON — A howling blizzard slammed the Northeast on

Sunday with more than 2 feet of snow and hurricane-strength wind gusts, halting air travel for thousands of people, keeping others off slippery highways and burying parked cars under deep drifts. Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Rhode Island Gov. Don Carcieri both declared states of emergency.

NEW YORK — Middle schools nationwide will participate

in a "No Name-Calling Week" initiative starting Monday. The program, now in its second year, has the backing of groups from the Girl Scouts to Amnesty International but has also drawn complaints that it overemphasizes harassment of gay youths.

The initiative was developed by the New York-based Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network.

—Associated Press

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

KIEV, Ukraine — Before a vast crowd of supporters celebrating with a burst of orange balloons, doves and chants, newly inaugurated President Viktor Yushchenko promised Sunday to steer a new course for Ukraine — away from corruption and political cronyism and into the European Union.

"Ukraine will stand against all evil," Yushchenko told the crowd on Kiev's Independence Square, where weeks earlier demonstrators cried out that he'd been robbed of the presidency by fraud in a campaign laced with intrigue that even saw the pro-Western reformer poisoned by a huge dose of dioxin.

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Mediators on Sunday persuaded the

Indonesian government and Aceh rebels to meet for negotiations on a cease-fire, trying to forge peace out of the tsunami tragedy. Indonesia raised its death toll from the disaster by as many as 7,600 people.

An American admiral dismissed fears that the U.S. military is ending its relief effort for tsunami victims in Indonesia too soon as a U.N. agency delivered aid on its own for the first time Sunday — a sign that

civilian groups are preparing to fill the gap when militaries pull out.

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Palestinians and Israelis moved closer to halting more than four years of violence on Sunday, with the new Palestinian leader saying he had made progress toward a truce deal with militants. Israel pledged for the first time to hold fire if calm prevails.

—Associated Press

IN OTHER NEWS

WINTER PARK, Fla. — Dave Plotkin rocked around the clock — several times over. The disc jockey at Rollins College's WPRK-FM unofficially set a record Friday for the world's longest continuous broadcast by a single DJ.

Plotkin, 25, took to the airwaves at 9 a.m. Monday and signed off at 11:03 p.m. Friday, a 110-hour span. A DJ in Switzerland lasted 105 hours in July 2002.

"Everything I did, every facet of my life for the past five days, I was broadcasting on the radio with a microphone or here in the studio," Plotkin said Friday evening in the seconds before reaching Hour 106.

The event, planned for more than a year, raised \$16,150 for the 52-year-old radio station.

Under Guinness' rules, Plotkin had to speak at least once every 59 seconds. And songs could not be longer than six minutes.

In between spinning CDs from indie rockers, Plotkin hosted local bands, interviewed artists and civic leaders, gave interviews himself and took cold showers in a stall built down the hall from the studio.

—Associated Press

THIS WEEK

IN ASI EVENTS

UU HOUR

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SEEKING ARTISTS

The UU Gallery is currently seeking student art submissions for its upcoming show, Body '05. Works should focus on the body or body image, and may be in any medium. The deadline is February 14. For details, contact the UU Gallery Student Supervisor at 756-6119.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

Body of abducted college student found on Texas roadside

A surveillance camera caught the kidnapping of a 19-year-old Wal-Mart employee as she left the store after an evening shift

Jamie Stengle
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TYLER, Texas — The surveillance camera captured the crime in chilling detail: A college student punches out after her night shift as a clerk at a Texas Wal-Mart and walks toward her truck in the parking lot. Suddenly she is attacked by a shadowy figure in a long, dark coat and kidnapped.

On Friday, 19-year-old Megan Leann Holden was found shot to death in a ditch near Stanton in West Texas, about 380 miles west of Tyler, where she had been abducted. Evidence at the scene indicated she was killed where her body was dumped, and The Dallas Morning News quoted an investigator as saying she was partially clothed.

Police said she was killed by a former California Marine who went on a multistate crime spree before he turned up Friday at an Arizona hospital with a gunshot wound.

The suspect, Johnny Lee Williams, 24, was being held in lieu of \$1 million bail on an aggravated kidnapping charge from Texas, authorities said, adding that Williams was driving the woman's pickup truck, which was parked outside the hospital.

Williams has requested an attorney and is not talking to authorities, Don Martin, a Tyler police spokesman, said Saturday.

Williams is expected to have an extradition hearing in Arizona early this week, said Carol Capas, Cochise County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman. If he agrees to return to Texas, he could leave in about two weeks.

Because Holden was kidnapped in Tyler, Smith County District Attorney Matt Bingham said he would seek capital murder charges.

Authorities performed an autopsy

on Holden's body Saturday, but would not release details until next week, said Greg Parrott, an investigator with the Lubbock County Medical Examiner's Office.

Holden's alleged abductor — a man in a long, dark coat — was seen loitering around the front entrance of the store "for a good period of time," Martin said. The man was also seen on tape about 90 minutes before the abduction, emerging from a bathroom and walking around inside the store.

"There's no doubt this was a total stranger abduction."

— GARY SWINDLE
Tyler police chief

The tape later shows Holden getting into her truck just before midnight and the man "running up behind her and either hitting her or pushing her," Martin said.

"There's no doubt this was a total stranger abduction," Tyler Police Chief Gary Swindle said.

However, Swindle said he believes Holden's assailant chose her over other potential victims.

"He did make several other attempts before he did pick out Megan," he said.

The surveillance tape showed a man police identified as Williams standing outside the Wal-Mart doors for about two hours before Holden was abducted.

The man walked into the store a couple of times and then stood outside smoking, chatting at times with some customers, police said.

Williams followed two women at different times, but as other people approached, walked back to the entrance before following Holden to her pickup truck in a parking lot beside the store, police said.

Swindle provided little detail about the killing, but said Holden died of a gunshot wound.

Authorities said Williams kept heading west as he continued his crime spree, attempting a robbery at an Arizona RV park, but was foiled by a store worker who fired the shot that landed Williams in the Arizona hospital where he was treated and then taken into custody.

"He said, 'This is robbery, I want all the money in the cash register,'" retired New York City firefighter Richie Chapman said. "And as he said that, he drew a weapon from underneath his shirt, and I drew and fired."

Williams joined the Marines on Jan. 13, 2001, according to a press statement from the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps base in California. He was a logistics clerk last assigned to the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, at the Twentynine Palms base in California.

Williams, a preacher's son, served in Iraq in 2003 but was given a bad-conduct discharge on Feb. 26 for using marijuana. He was on voluntary leave without pay pending an appellate



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jill Kitchens, of Tyler, Texas, places a candle at a bench covered with flowers in front of a Wal-Mart store where Megan Leann Holden, 19, was abducted.

review of the case. Police said same day on \$2,000 bond. Police said Williams, a preacher's son, was arrested Williams also was involved in an armed robbery at a convenience store in Texas on Thursday.

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COMMENTARY

'So Jealous' of Tegan and Sara

It's so refreshing when a band sounds just as good or better in its live show as they do on the album. There are way too many bands whose singer can't really sing or whose guitarist needs 20 takes to get it right, and the only reason the album sounds good is because the sound technicians are amazing.

Canadian sisters Tegan and Sara remind me of the old days — the coffee shop performances of greats that are held only in the minds of those lucky enough to see them and say, "I saw so-and-so before they got famous." But Tegan and Sara have kept the polished, intimate feel in their live shows and on their album.

In the recording process of their new album "So Jealous," released in December, Tegan and Sara cut the demos in their rooms and when they brought them to the studio, they intended to keep the homemade spirit. This meant making drummer, Rob Chursinoff, play along to the demos while he was learning the material.

In the end, "So Jealous" feels like a demo, but in a good way. With artists like Le Tigre, Arcade Fire and Matt Sharp (who guests on the album) staying close to the indie sound was a given. But with their recent success in Canada, America and abroad, it's great to hear that they are keeping a down-to-earth quality in their live shows.

Tegan is the more assertive sister with a Joan Jett haircut — short and shaggy bangs tapered to the neck in the back and often styled in an "anti-style." Sara has the same haircut, only with straight bangs. They're nearly identical.

Exaggerated syllables and high, quick, ornamented notes set Tegan and Sara apart from every other female singer, even if we can't necessarily tell them apart.

The first single off of "So Jealous" is "Walking With A Ghost," a simple, acoustic guitar-driven pop song that is the least of the album's charms. The album begins with a song called "You Wouldn't Like Me," which has made some critics say Tegan and Sara sing about "self-hatred." They insisted, in a live show for Spin magazine, that they really do like themselves.

The show for Spin, an appearance on Late Night with Conan O'Brien and numerous sold-out live shows have reaffirmed their dominance on stage. Between sets, Tegan leads the conversation with the audience and teases Sara relentlessly. The chit-chat makes the shows more intimate, as if their music wasn't easy enough to relate to.

On their Web site, Tegan and Sara sometimes post little witticisms on a journal, so I'll leave you with one of these: "Go donate at the Red Cross today and then buy a new cd from an independent artist. Then go home and hug your loved ones ... then drink beer, no just kidding, skip the beer and go see a band play live."

Emily Logan is a music and journalism junior and Mustang Daily columnist.



ROSE-COLORED noise

sounding off on the music scene

Ice Cube takes box office crown

Paul Chavez
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The road trip comedy "Are We There Yet?" earned \$18.5 million to quickly arrive at first place in the weekend box office.

The family picture starring rapper-actor Ice Cube in its opening weekend sent "Coach Carter" back to the bench when the basketball drama brought in \$11 million for second place, according to studio estimates released Sunday.

"Assault on Precinct 13," a remake of the 1976 "cult classic" about cops and criminals joining forces against a jail siege by gang members, took in \$7 million in its first weekend and finished sixth in the box office tally.

Final figures will be released today.

"Are We There Yet?" follows Cube as he embarks on a road trip with two manipulative children who he tolerates only because he is trying to woo their attractive divorced mother.

Showing in wide release at 2,709 theaters, "Are We There Yet?" averaged \$6,829 a cinema.

"It's a total family picture," said Rory Bruer, president of distribution for Sony Pictures. "It's very funny and Ice Cube did a terrific job. He's just hysterical in it."

Cube, 35, will be in "XXX: State of the Union," scheduled for release in April. The action film sequel also will feature Samuel L. Jackson, star of "Coach Carter."

The PG-13 rated comedy continued the trend of family films performing well at the box office, especially over the past six months, said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations.

"It's a very appealing genre. Families are always looking for entertainment, something that is suitable for the whole family," he



COURTESY PHOTO

Ice Cube and his family film, "Are We There Yet?" took the top box office honors over the weekend, grossing an estimated \$18.5 million.

said.

The comedy played well across demographics, with an audience breakdown of 43 percent white, 26 percent black and 18 percent Hispanic, Bruer said.

"Meet the Fockers," another PG-13 rated film, continued to do well and is marching toward becoming the highest grossing live-action comedy of all time. The in-law farce collected \$10.2 million over the weekend to push its five week total to \$247.7 million.

The blockbuster comedy moved into second place in the live-action comedy category behind record-holder "Home Alone," which earned \$285.8 million. The God-comedy "Bruce Almighty" dropped to third place at \$242.7 million.

The blizzard that swept across the Midwest and clobbered the Northeast kept many movie fans from the theaters, but the numbers remained slightly higher than the same weekend last year, Dergarabedian said.

Revenues from the top 12 movies were up 3.9 percent from last year.

TOP TEN BOX OFFICE

Top grossing films of last weekend

1. "Are We There Yet?" — \$18.5 million.
2. "Coach Carter," — \$11 million.
3. "Meet the Fockers," — \$10.2 million.
4. "In Good Company," — \$8.5 million.
5. "Racing Stripes," — \$7.06 million.
6. "Assault on Precinct 13," — \$7.02 million.
7. "The Phantom of the Opera," — \$5.02 million.
8. "White Noise," — \$5 million.
9. "The Aviator," — \$4.8 million.
10. "Elektra," — \$3.8 million.

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COMMENTARY

Bush is right and the left knows it

Global warming is quickly becoming a hot political topic. It is discussed in the news, on the college campus and even in the Oval Office. President Bush has kept a close eye on the major polluters in America, so you can bet he saw this news story.

Washington state just released its year-end report detailing its top polluters. This list contains all sorts of power plants and factories, but the biggest polluter in the state shocked me. It turns out that the leading producer of all measurable greenhouse gasses is Mt. St. Helens.

That's right. A volcano is the state's leading producer of harmful gasses. It turns out that volcanoes emit nearly every type of gas that causes global warming, and have been doing so for the past five billion years. In 1991, Mt. Pinatubo expelled more than 1,000 times the CFCs that the human race has produced throughout our history. These harmful particles are thought to be one of the leading causes of global warming, but scientists have found that that eruption caused only minimal, temporary damage to the ozone layer.

There is evidence to say that the earth has warmed between 0.2 and 0.6 degrees over that past century, but the cause is undetermined. First of all, we have only recorded temperature for about 100 years, so the long-term data is extremely poor. It would be like predicting where a freeway will go after only analyzing a yard of it. Second, the earth has undergone major climate cycles long before human beings, including multiple ice ages. Finally, we have seen an increase in volcanic activity and solar flares during this period so how do we know that the effects are entirely man-made?

Real perspective is important — especially with all the political talk surrounding global warming these days. Along with alternative fuels and population growth, global warming will be a major political issue for years to come. It is essential that we know all of the facts about global warming, not just the propaganda.

Bush gets criticized almost daily for not signing the Kyoto Protocol. This treaty is an agreement between industrialized nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. The problem with this legislation is that even proponents admit that it will have very little effect. Peter Roddick of the environmental group Friends of Earth International recently admitted that the Protocol will only have a "symbolic" effect on global warming.

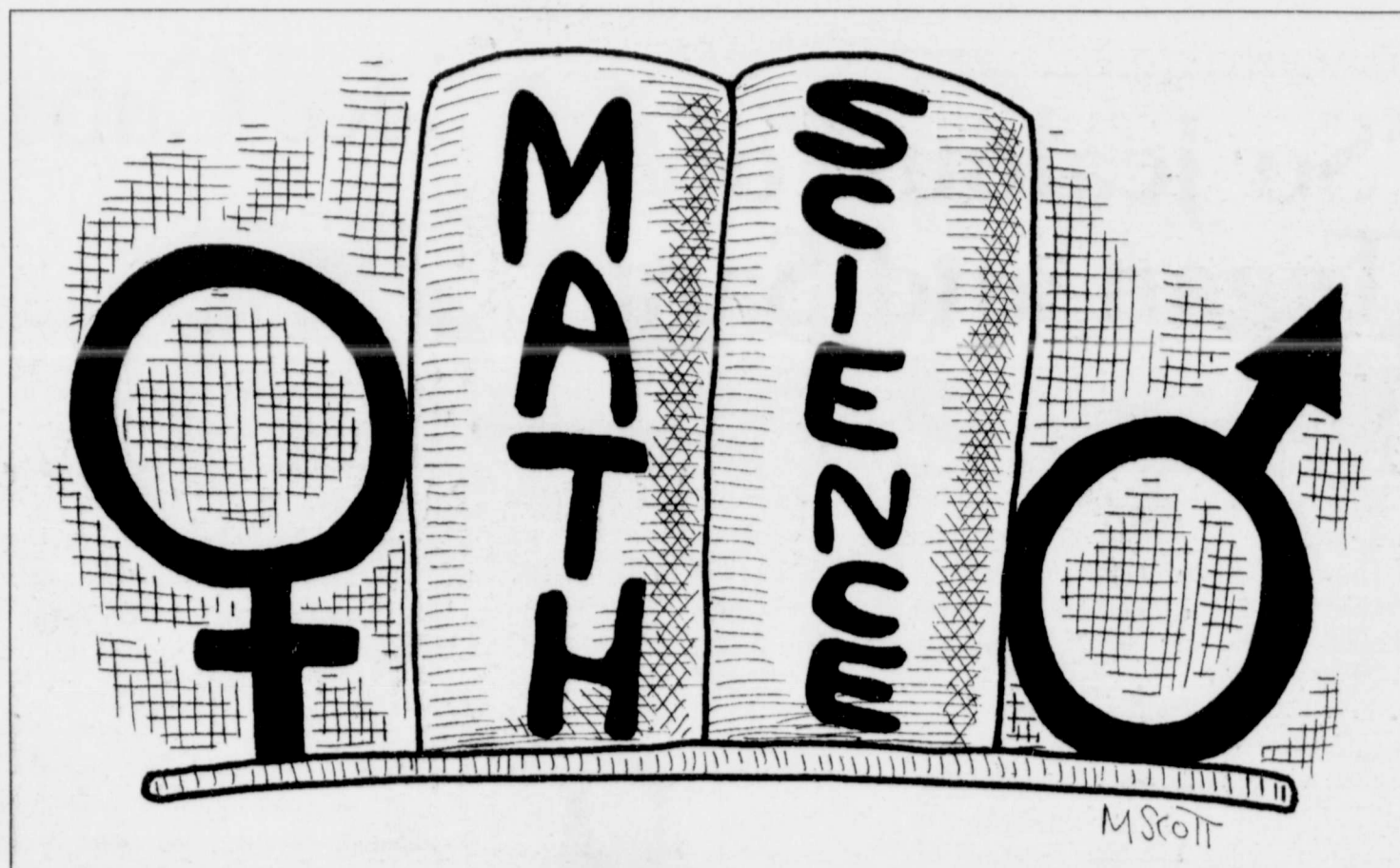
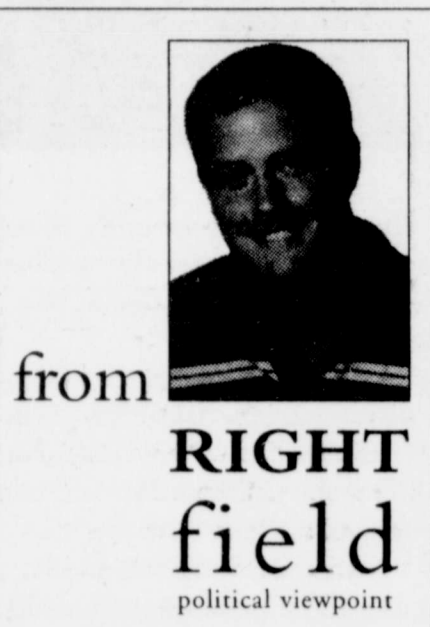
President Bush is exactly right in refusing to sign this worthless treaty. It would cost American business billions of dollars without producing any kind of positive results. I am also proud to report that no member of the Senate voted to ratify the treaty in March of 2001: the vote was 95-0. That means that 45 Democrats, including John Kerry, voted against this pathetic attempt at stopping global warming.

The point is that global warming isn't caused solely by humans, so we can do very little the reverse its effects. While we do need to be good stewards of the environment, sacrificing major portions of our economy for no reason is not the answer. Ignoring this half-hearted, useless treaty was the best thing we could have done. It is obviously the will of the American people.

Matt Bushman is a civil engineering junior and Mustang Daily columnist.

COMING TOMORROW

The Student Connection by ASI President Blake Bolton



MARGARET SCOTT NEWSART

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Overrated: Alcohol and its forbidden nature

Alright, two years is about enough of drinking. I've done my time. I did that walk down the hill, looking for the party, believing that my six freshmen, male friends and I would be let into a party. I did that night where you mix half a two liter of flat Dr. Pepper with Albertson's brand vodka and drank it as fast as possible. I did that sad transaction where you give the homeless guy ten bucks to buy you a five pack and don't get any change.

And you know what? I'm over it.

I refuse to walk through my house with the hat out, trying to make eye contact with the random guys I've never met so they'll give me money for the next thirty pack. I refuse to buy any more free drinks for the pretty girls that aren't going to talk to me. I refuse to blackout and wake up in a

strangers house again, crying silently, promising myself to watch my drink more carefully next time.

The problem with alcohol is that it was so forbidden all our lives. It's been hyped up for so long as such a great evil that kids grow up thinking its like all the other great evils of childhood: sugar, rock and roll music and R rated movies. All those things turned out to be awesome. In many ways, it resembles the story of Garden of Eden, except in Genesis, people were naked before they gave into temptation.

Erich Meschkat
Business junior

Underrated: Marijuana as a safe substitute for alcohol

Due to my inexperience with this topic, I base my opinions on the research of some close friends.

It has come to my attention — now everyone hold on — that the American government may not have been working in the best interests of its citizens at some point in history. A landmark accusation. So let's take marijuana for example. From its ban in the early 1900s as a backdoor immigration restriction to billions spent on the

war on drugs, the government has been trying to eliminate "pot" (as the kids call it) from the U.S. But why? During my scientific observations, subjects ate excessively, were fascinated by their television, and became paranoid of outsiders. Aren't Americans already like that?

To me, it seems like a safe substitute for alcohol. I have yet to read about a freshman found dead Sunday morning from marijuana poisoning. I have yet to hear about someone's roommate getting so "high" that they threw up on the TV. I have yet to see someone use "reefer," and then start a fight cause some dude spilled on his new sandals.

"Stoners," in fact, are the nicest people you will meet. In a time when we Sharpie our initials on three dollar jugs of milk, stoners are more liberal with their food and drink than obese parents. They are the friendliest, most content people you know. Like sex, the government has managed to make marijuana seem much more dangerous, and way more complicated, than it really is.

Erich Meschkat
Business junior

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to editor@mustangdaily.net.

• A Mustang Daily column printed Jan. 20, 2005, titled "Grading ethics in higher education," misquoted Associated Students, Inc. Director William Weatherford. He said:

"I think it's fair that one professor can fail 60 percent of his or her class while another lets nearly all of their students pass."

• "Grading ethics in higher education," also misidentified the purpose of the Academic Senate Grievance Board. Academic Senate resolution AS-500-98/ETF states that the Grievance Board hears

complaints "which do not involve grade appeals."

The Academic Fairness Board hears grade appeals while the Grievance Board hears complaints regarding sexual harassment and perceived unfairness based on ethnicity, gender, race, disability or sexual orientation.

Editor's note: The columns that appear in the Mustang Daily do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial staff. Columnists choose their own topics, conduct their own research and form their own opinions.

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"The scary thing is that I might actually look like that in 15 years."

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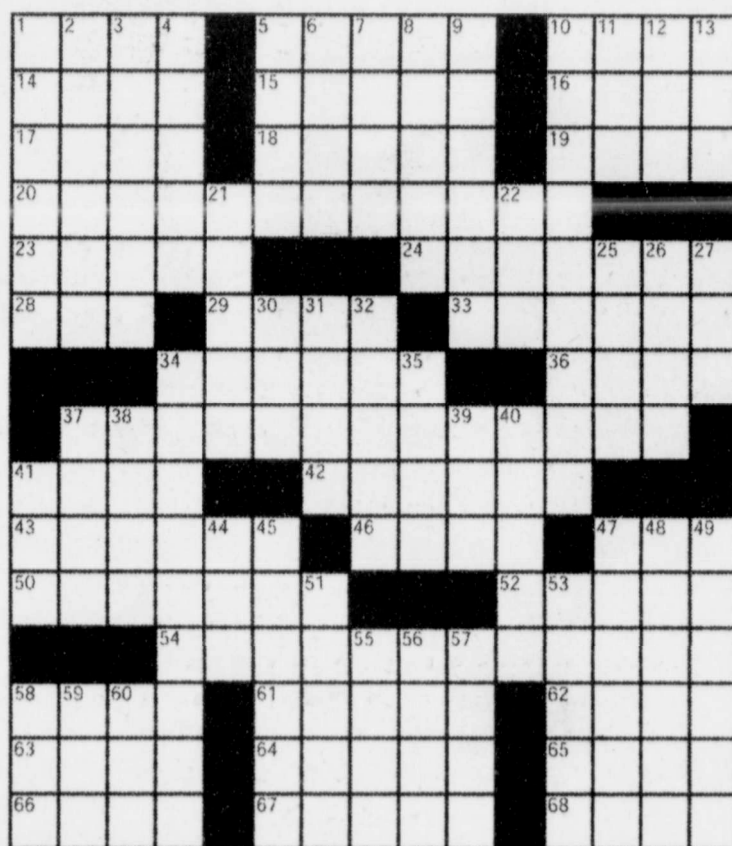
No. 1213

- ACROSS**
- 1 Drug buster, for short
5 Apartments
10 Arizona city
14 Mishmash
15 Scoundrel
16 Kuwaiti leader
17 Group voting the same way
18 Car from Japan
19 It may be carried with a guitar
20 Unexpectedly
23 Dismal, in poetry
24 Not just anger
28 "___ out!" (ump's call)
29 Mine finds
33 Grassy Argentine plains
34 Gap and Toys 'R' Us, e.g.
36 Verb not in the king's English
- 37 Unexpectedly
41 Pro ___ (proportionally)
42 Followed smoothly
43 Natural to a creature
46 Rocker David Lee ___
47 Sup
50 "Saturday Night Fever" group, with "the"
52 "Where the deer and the antelope play"
54 Unexpectedly
58 Shoot (by)
61 Decree
62 Family rooms
63 Detest
64 Delay leaving
65 Stow cargo
66 Reason to put a clothespin on your nose

- 67 Earl of ___, favorite of Queen Elizabeth I
68 Pitching stats, for short

DOWN

- 1 Opposite of everyone
2 That certain something
3 Violent troublemaker
4 Beverage with a marshmallow
5 Pledges' group, for short
6 ___ Ness monster
7 Flulike symptoms
8 Supercharged engine
9 Close tightly
10 Parking ticket issuer
11 Flightless Australian bird
12 Break a Commandment
13 "___ you there?"
21 Foam
22 Actress Hagen
25 Neat as ___
26 Jets or Sharks, in "West Side Story"
27 Not an exact fig.
30 Howard of "Happy Days"
31 Archer of myth
32 Waste conduit
34 Telescope user
35 Palm starch



Puzzle by Sarah Keller

- 37 Decrease gradually
38 "Can ___ true?"
39 Same old same old
40 Kind of jacket
41 "Spare" item at a barbecue
44 Snake-like fish
45 Erase
47 Make lovable
48 Slate
49 Present and future
51 Ice cream concoctions
53 Confuse
55 Some evergreens
56 Land unit
57 River to the underworld
58 Group with the rock opera "Tommy," with "the"
59 Owned
60 Judge Lance of the O. J. Simpson case

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MICA GOON THE LAM
IBIS AFTER IMAGE
SETS SUBMARINES
SLYNNESS OPENSEA
TIE LEES POE
HEDGED TRIUMPHS
EVITA FAUST REC
BETS HURST LIAR
USO TIMES SONDE
SORCERER CANTIBE
ONA SCAR MAN
SARONGS ALIMENT
SMOKE ALARM EDGE
TABERNACLE LIES
SHEDS A TEAR TART

Baseball

continued from page 8

Cal Poly regained the advantage with two in the sixth.

Berglund finished with two hits and five RBIs for Cal Poly. Blumenthal and Walker each added a pair of hits for the Mustangs. San Diego outhit the Mustangs 12-10.

On Friday, pinch hitter Sean Alexander's run-scoring single with two outs in the ninth inning lifted Cal Poly.

Kyle Blumenthal and Bret Berglund both made out to open the top of the ninth, the score tied at 6-6, but Jimmy Van Ostrand doubled into the right-field corner and Jon Marshall was hit by a pitch, setting the stage for Alexander.

The senior transfer from Texas Tech singled to right field to drive in Van Ostrand.

Mike Bille retired the Toreros in the bottom of the ninth for a save. Frank McLaughlin picked up the win with a scoreless, hitless eighth inning.

Cal Poly won its fifth straight season opener. The last three wins were under coach Larry Lee, and all three against the Toreros.

Senior right-hander Jimmy Shull allowed six runs, four earned, and nine hits in seven innings. He struck out seven and walked two.

Junior center fielder Brandon Roberts and sophomore designated hitter JJ Owen both went 3-for-5 at the plate as Cal Poly outhit San Diego 15-10.

On Sunday, the University of San Diego committed five errors and Cal Poly took advantage by scoring five unearned runs.

First baseman Bret Berglund drove in three runs without a hit, third baseman Kyle Blumenthal and right fielder Jimmy Van Ostrand each had three hits and Bud Norris pitched five strong innings in relief as the Mustangs jumped to a 3-0 start for the first time under Larry Lee.

Basketball

continued from page 8

the score 67-65. But Matador forward Ian Boylan scored the next four points as the Matadors closed out strongly and stayed second place in conference.

On Thursday, the Mustangs experienced similar futility in losing to Pacific. Although the Mustangs nailed 14-of-27 three-pointers, had their third-highest point total of the season and matched the Tigers' rebound total, the men never led after halftime and ultimately fell 90-78.

However, Cal Poly did not concede the game, battling back from a 16-point deficit midway through the second half to keep Pacific's lead around 10 during the final few minutes. It wasn't enough to surmount the Big West-leading Tigers.

Five Mustangs had at least 10 points including freshman forward Haskins, who tied for the game-high in scoring with 20 points. His wasn't the only hot hand, however — seven Mustangs made at least one three-pointer.

"They shot the crap out of the ball," Tiger center Tyler Newton said.

The only problem for Cal Poly was that Pacific matched its effort every step of the way. Where the Mustangs shot 54 percent for the game, the Tigers had 58 percent accuracy and nailed an astonishing 17-of-25 shots in the second half. Bromley did find some positives in the game, though.

"Making them make adjustments was a real positive," Bromley said. "For the first time, we (made) someone make adjustments."

— Assistant Sports Editor
Graham Womack contributed to this report.

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COACH'S CORNER

This week's spotlight on ...



Men's basketball assistant coach Bob Lowe

Natasha Toto
MUSTANG DAILY

Beginning his fourth year as assistant coach for men's basketball, Bob Lowe is using his many years of experience to help this year's rookie team evolve and grow.

On the court, Lowe serves as the defensive coordinator for the team.

The Mustang Daily sat down Friday with coach Lowe to analyze his teams' rocky season.

Q. — What needs to be done differently in terms of defense to turn things around?

A. — The first thing is we need to get back in transition. We have to do a better job of getting back and making teams play against our half-court defense. That is where we are working hard, especially against Northridge on Saturday.

Q. — What do you see as the biggest obstacle for the team?

A. — I think coming into it we have some inexperience. Last year's team was a pretty veteran team. Right now we basically have four starters off last year's team and a few freshmen.

Q. — Thursday's game against Pacific, was it a stepping stone despite the loss?

A. — Yes, it was. You know, I think we have played pretty well against some of the best teams in the conference. We played a really good road game against Utah State and then Pacific who is undefeated and a good quality team. I think we hung in there, did a really good job and gave ourselves a chance to win.

Q. — Is Dawin Whiten the key to any future success for the team?

A. — Yes, definitely. Dawin and Andrew Haskins are both doing a great job for us. I think Dawin is going to be a great part of our future.

Q. — How do you deal with losses this early on in the season?

A. — It is always tough but everything has been very positive. The guys are at practice everyday ready to learn and get better. It is a good group to work with. We try not to dwell on any of the losses. We just want to focus on the next game.

Q. — What do you think you can get from this season? What lessons can be learned?

A. — Well, I don't want to put things in perspective too early. We will probably look back and see what was and was not learned, but right now we are just concentrating on working through each day.

Q. — What do you enjoy the most working with this year's team?

A. — I really enjoy the challenges of how to work with guys that have inexperience, but are working hard to improve. It is a good practice environment. Everybody is trying hard for each other. I think in terms of just practicing hard and working to get better is what I enjoy the most.

Ninth-inning sweepstakes



FILE PHOTO

Baseball wins its fifth straight season opener with a 8-6 win Friday.

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Cal Poly baseball is certainly off to a good start.

The Mustangs opened their season sweeping No. 48 University of San Diego, winning 8-6, 10-6, 10-6. Two games ended in dramatic fashion in the ninth-inning.

In Saturday's win, the Mustangs used junior first baseman Bret Berglund's two-run home run in the ninth frame to snap a 6-6 tie at Cunningham Stadium.

The Mustangs had scored twice in the ninth inning in Friday's season opener to break a 6-6 deadlock.

Senior third baseman Kyle Blumenthal singled with two outs in the ninth Saturday and Berglund, who led Cal Poly in home runs a year ago with nine, collected his first round-tripper of the 2005 season, a

blast over the 395-foot sign in left-center field. Cal Poly scored two more runs in the ninth on an error in the infield to break the game open.

Senior reliever Dennis LeDuc picked up the win despite giving up two runs to San Diego in the eighth inning on a hit batter and a wild pitch with the bases loaded, tying the game at 6-6.

Senior Mike Bille pitched a scoreless ninth for the second consecutive day.

Cal Poly scored four times in the first inning off San Diego starter Dustin Church. A bases-clearing triple by Berglund and a passed ball accounted for the runs.

San Diego answered with three runs in the third and another in the fifth to tie the game at 4-4.

see Baseball, page 7

Twice closed out and lost out

Men's basketball weaknesses are exposed at the end of two closely contested games with the Big West Conferences' elite

Dan Watson
MUSTANG DAILY

When the games were on the line, Cal Poly men's basketball still looked like a team gasping for any vital life signs.

Matching confidence with aggression, the Cal State Northridge Matadors staved off Cal Poly over the crunch-time minutes for a 81-73 win in Mott Gym and Pacific did the same winning 90-78 on Thursday.

Cal Poly men's basketball fans are still waiting for a full 40-minute effort on the hardwood — the Mustangs came close Saturday before a Fox Sports Net 2 audience and packed home gym, but they failed to execute down the stretch to end what is now a seven-game losing skid.

Coach Kevin Bromley candidly assessed the loss.

"We got our ass kicked on the boards," Bromley said. "Sometimes rebounds can be very misleading, not tonight."

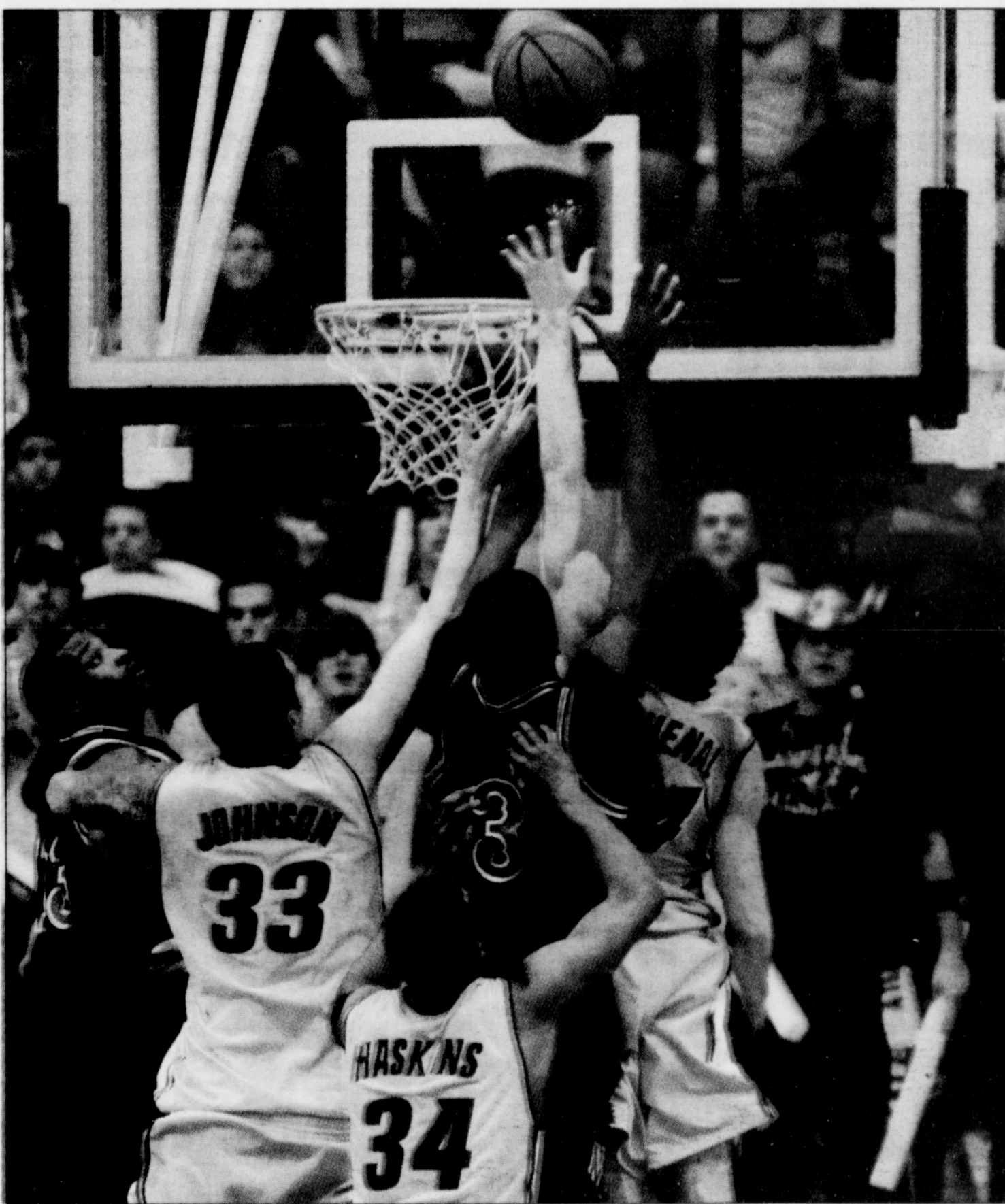
The Mustangs were outrebounded 34-18 and only snatched one rebound over the final four minutes, when Northridge took over.

The Mustangs took a 42-40 lead into halftime and opened up a five-point advantage after Cal Poly forward Andrew Haskins stole a Matador pass and converted two free throws on the other end. But, reminiscent of Thursday's loss to Pacific in which the Tigers shot 21-f21 from the charity stripe, the Matadors started to pursue the basket a little harder drawing fouls and precipitating an eventual 12-point advantage from the free throw line on the night.

The Matadors shot 26-36 from the line while the Mustangs only had 16 attempts and made 14.

The Mustangs fell to 3-12 overall, 1-6 in the Big West Conference.

"At the end of the game, we lost some focus. And there were some conditioning issues and mental fatigue," Mustang guard Dawin Whiten said. Whiten finished with 22 points on nine of 13 shooting. For the game, the Mustangs shot 53.1



NICK HOOVER MUSTANG DAILY

Pacific's Jonathan Heard stretches for the rebound along with a group of Mustangs in Saturdays game.

percent from the floor, but surrendered the same to the Matadors, and, cognizant of the rebounding problems, gave up a 40-to-26 points in the paint advantage.

"That's the difference between a team that has won and a team that hasn't," Bromley said. "We've been playing 35-36 good minutes of basketball. But if you have those older players, then you're competing to

win. You got to get stops at the end."

In the second half, the Matadors implemented a trap-zone defense that exploited the Mustangs weak guard play and perimeter passing. Whiten finished with six turnovers having played the point guard position for much of the night. Mustang guard Nick Enzweiler actually led the team with seven assists, but no guard on the team finished with a

single dish.

Davin White's layup gave the Matadors their first second-half lead midway through the second half. Before the four-minute mark, the Matadors opened up a 67-59 lead, their biggest of the game, before Mustang guard Glen Jones closed the gap with a long three-pointer, and Joe Henry's three-point play made

see Basketball, page 7